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CDXC Newsletter

Sept 1991 Chiltern DX Club Issue 75

Editorial (G0HSD)

It is very difficult to know where to start! What a month! I have had great difficulty keeping up with the pace of world events let alone the various rumours hurtling around the airwaves and on the packet screens.

As I was writing this column last time there were whisperings of a possible ZA operation by the Hungarian team. Within days those whispers had turned into loud voices then screams of excitement. The story seemed to change every half an hour and had my boss jumping up and down about the number of calls made to a certain 0426 number at regular intervals!

Thing reached fever pitch at 0530 one Monday Morning on the 222 net when a Hungarian announced that ZA would be aired within "half an hour". And, of course, nothing happened.

Then came the shocking news from the USSR. HELL! The world immediately seemed to turn the clock back ten years. This event only lasted 4 days and near normality was restored and then the joyous news , "BURMA IS STILL GO". The rest is history.

I managed to work XY0RR on most bands, CW and SSB and I think this is one many will remember for a long time. Congratulations to Roger G3LQP and Laurie G3UML who have now got the lot! (Lets hope the cards show!!).

I have also, in the last few weeks, been elected onto the RSGB HF Contests Committee which looks like being good fun, very interesting ....and hard work! It is a mad dash for me to leap out of the office, having started work at 7am and skipping a lunch break, and belting down the street to catch the 3.39 to the Smoke only to be squashed under someone's armpit on a rush hour tube!

I have also been very busy getting my act together for CQWW this October and I hope to be able to make a big improvement on last years score.

Thank you to everyone that has contributed this time. PLEASE keep sending in your input. THIS NEWSLETTER WOULD BE NON-EXISTENT WITHOUT IT!!

Well that's about it from me other than to apologise for the delay in the publication of the last Newsletter. I was not at home for the 5 weeks leading up to the deadline, also the DTPing had to be fitted in Don's very tight schedule and the printing firm delayed it further. PLEASE bear this in mind for the

future and send me any input you have before the deadline (preferably way before) to try and avoid hold ups.The next deadline is NOVEMBER 16th.

Best 73s Andrew G0HSD

Chairman's Comments - Martin, G3ZAY

What an amazing 6 weeks for DX! XY0RR worked on 7 or 8 bands, ZA worked on 3 or 4 (so far), 3B7 back after about 10 years of silence, new islands galore, and autumnal propagation beginning to liven up the higher bands. I seem to have spent every spare moment in the shack with serious consequences for all my other chores.

August/September being the peak period for bridge tournaments I have been away every weekend but have managed to catch most of the new islands from the mobile rig when parked on a hill-top or the upper level of a multi-storey car park. The rest of the bridge team thought my constant absences between rounds to check the bands a little eccentric!

I can now take a break from DXCC, at least until North Korea pops up, as the ZA was my last one. IOTA will now get full attention.

All this activity has not been without controversy. The XY's operating practices, the idiots on his transmit frequency - both SSB & CW, and 3B8CF's predilection for lists and nets. In an increasingly busy world it seems that few people

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have the patience to wait quietly until a DX station identifies itself or the time to sit on a net for the 3-4 hours it may take for a list to be made and run. Instead there seems to be an attitude that one is entitled to cause QRM whenever best operating practices are not being followed. A few G stations have been as guilty as the rest and on one shameful occasion an individual with a northern English accent was heard disrupting the 14256 net by endlessly telling Jacky that he shouldn't go to rare places unless he was prepared to operate split. If any of our members identified this individual perhaps they could have a quiet word with him.

The answer to all this is simply more and more education and peer pressure. We must continue, firmly but politely, to assert the merits of frequent identification, the unacceptability of demanding "What's his call?" or its CW equivalents on a transmit frequency, the efficiency of split operation coupled with other good pile-up management techniques, the inefficiency of list operations especially when propagation changes or stations go QRT, and the absurdity of net controllers protesting - at least in the case of rarities like 3B7 - that they are "helping the small guys" when the vast pile ups on the list taker need massive beams and linears to crack.

We can also address some of the less satisfactory QSL managers by politely asking their client stations to consider a change.

The bottom line to all this, however, is that people have a right to operate and QSL in whatever legal way they choose, and however infuriating we find it we must refrain from any direct action other than polite comment at a suitable time.

Moving to pleasanter themes, we will be presenting the CDXC plaques at the HF Convention. By now it should be no secret that the recipients of the Contest Plaques will be Steve, GW4BLE, for CQWW SSB, and Don, G3XTT, QRV as GJ6UW in CQWW CW. The recipients of the Merit Plaques will be announced at the Convention. As one of the CDXC aims is to publicise DXing and DXers I will be ensuring that press releases are sent to all appropriate magazines.

Finally, picking up CQ magazine's theme of "dead band" activities, I enjoy reading about islands especially when they are the backdrop for fiction. I have a small list of books correlated with the IOTA reference numbers they describe but would like more entries. Can anyone out there help? Non-fiction / reference works could also be added. To get you started, you might try Hammond Innes "Atlantic Fury" where the St Kilda group is lightly disguised, and "The Wreck of the Mary Deare" set largely in Les Minquiers. Any more?

73, Martin G3ZAY.

DXpedition to the Caribbean, 1991

Paul Evans, G4BKI

When the opportunity to visit the Caribbean, for the third year running, presented itself again, slightly more ambitious plans were made this time around. Previous visits had taken in only Barbados; on the first we had not taken a transceiver with us, only a few essentials like keyers & paddles; on the second an HW8 had also gone along too. The HW8 had been a most unfortunate experience really because it was lugged in hand baggage all the way out there and produced a total of two QSOs in two weeks (one of them was with 8P9FF about 600 yards away!). QRP is OK in Europe under good conditions, but in the Summer & in the Caribbean (where it is over 1000 miles to anywhere), you soon find that things are not in your favour, no matter what your call! For the third trip a very small & light transceiver was needed. An Atlas 210x was purchased and extensively modified to improve its CW performance. It took months of work by my father to lick it into shape for the trip. One difficulty we had was in trying to get the right power supply. These days, small, light (light enough to go into hand baggage), 120v and 240v power supplies capable of at least 10A seem to be a bit hard to come by. In the end, a very Heath-Robinson affair was taken, but it did the job provided the wick wasn't turned up too much! The search continues for a good switched mode supply around the rallies.....

Having left the UK for Barbados on 9th June, we were soon used to the 80 degree weather & the pre-breakfast swims in the Caribbean. A piece of enamelled wire was thrown over the nearest tree (after a room change which moved us from the bottom floor to the top floor of the hotel!) and we were on. Silence! Is this antenna really connected? Conditions were AWFUL. We found that the day before there had been a really big flare on the Sun and that everything had gone out like a light. Oh well, back to the rum and sun!

We struggled manfully to extract some contacts out of the band, but found it only ever came alive (if that's what it could be called) for two hours per day, 1200-1300z and 0000-0100z. This seemed to hold true for the whole trip and I got very used to hearing nothing outside these times (I do mean NOTHING!). A trip to our friends from previous years, Trudie 8P6QM and Ian 8P6HL to use a better antenna in the daytime resulted in two hard earned contacts in 20 minutes!

When the band did open for those two hours though, it was a little like watered down rocket fuel. The morning period would bring VKs, ZLs and exotica such as VU & P29 (look at a map & you'll see it's difficult to work this from the Caribbean). The evening period

would be a mix of very good Ws and some weak EU. Our previous operations had been from the QTH of Trudi, 8P6QM, on the East coast, with 1000ft hills in the way of the W path and in the first year I worked only 2 Ws, but a whole load of EU. The difference between coasts was quite remarkable. To do really well in a contest you'd have to operate from the central hills of the island.

Before leaving the UK we had made no definite booking for the onward trip to St.Vincent. No flight, no hotel room. We had to sort things out locally, although we were well equipped with information sent to us by the St.Vincent & the Grenadines Tourist Board. The amazing thing was that our impression of previous attempts to ask about St.Vincent were proven to be entirely true. Namely, that nobody seemed to know much about the place, even though it was only 100 miles away and there are about half a dozen flights per day on LIAT. The travel agent we used even said that her mother now lived there, but that she had never been to visit her! Stranger & stranger. The island has only been independent for 25 years and has not developed its tourist industry to anything like the extent of the other Caribbean islands. Very few people ever want to go there, which is a shame. Having got a flight booked and a hotel fixed up, we were off, a little later than planned because the 5 room hotel was fully booked for the days when we really wanted it.

The flight over was a little more expensive than the quotation of the previous year, the local air carrier is suffering from a cash-flow problem and had hiked its rates quite a bit. The flight was very short, 30 minutes at most and in a British Aerospace prop plane, which really must have a very hard working life, island hopping every day. We had a very good view of the northern Grenadines on the way in to Varnos Vale airport in St.Vincent. The airport is a single made-up runway of something around 1000ft and cannot take jets (a blessing, I can assure you). The airport officials were a little unwelcoming and did some very vigorous searching of all the baggage that went through. A half-flippant "oh that's just Amateur Radio" when they met with the Atlas was enough to satisfy them to my surprise. Incidentally, the Tourist Board book had said that radios being imported had to have a deposit bond paid on them, returnable on their re-export, but we saw no evidence of this in action. We caught a taxi and got to our DXpedition home of the next 5 days, a quaint French style place called the Umbrella Beach Hotel. It was not resorty like the name would suggest. A quick look around found us wanting a car to hire, but not on a Sunday! We tried everywhere, but had realised that this was one place that still kept that quaint British tradition of doing absolutely nothing on a Sunday. Lesson learnt: Make sure you don't arrive on some of these islands on a Sunday!

Picking up the radio licences

(Monday morning) was quite interesting. While waiting for the vehicle licensing office to open, I suggested we find the Radio office and at least introduce ourselves (we had not brought the licences with us when trying to sort out the car hire). Having found the right man, Mr DeFrietas, he must have soon realised we were genuine because he gave us verbal permission to go off and operate right away! His secretary was out and we could show the licenses and pick up the letters of authority the next day. We were on!

Conditions had not improved much, so the good old 2 hour slots were milked for all they were worth. Al, G3FXB was one of the first worked and described conditions as 'punk'. Thank goodness for the FOC meeting place of 14025, it constantly provided me with contacts when in other spots calls went unheard. My father got quite aggravated that I could get people to call me there, but he couldn't work much at all. The antenna was again the same bit of wire thrown over the handiest tree. The gardens and setting were a little too picturesque to risk putting up the better antennas we had brought along. This is often the case on these islands, so it is just as well to carry some good 'fall-back' options with you. A small ATU is a MUST. The dipoles were never unpacked from their plastic bag during the whole trip. In St.Vincent we might have got away with it. Final sentence of the 'To whom it may concern' letter on Government headed note paper said that we should be given 'all assistance' in setting up our radio station!

St.Vincent was a remarkably different island to Barbados, it is very mountainous and the people were very shy. However, the officialdom really couldn't have been more pleasant and I was very impressed at the laid-back style of the licensing office! It's an island that could very quickly become claustrophobic because, although it is about 17 by 14 miles, it is extremely mountainous and the roads run only around the outside of the island. In fact, our car hirers indicated on the map where our driving should cease, leaving only about 40 miles of navigable roadways!

In total contrast to the volcano and black sand beaches of St.Vincent, the Grenadines are a chain of islands stretching for about 40 miles to the south of St.Vincent and are small, hilly & have golden sand beaches. Travel to them was very easy by ferry, with a twice daily service to Bequia (pronounced Bekwee) only 9 miles away and a twice weekly service which does a round trip to all the islands. Easy pickings for IOTA!

Transportation on St.Vincent was extremely reasonable, with hundreds of mini-vans stopping anywhere for you (fares are variable with distance, fixed by Government but generally around 40p a trip) and the ferry service being an exceptional bargain (especially the Grena-

dines round trip).

This trip realised a three year dream to visit St.Vincent and the experience of getting there more than made up for the lack of good radio conditions. Where to next year? Well, stay tuned as I hope to put on another island sometime around June next year.

My thanks to all who worked me as 8P9FT and J8/G4BKI. All G's worked will receive QSLs through the buro automatically (as in my previous operations). Direct QSLs will be (and are being) answered promptly.

Paul, G4BKI.

ST TUDWAL'S ISLANDS 1991

Martin, G3ZAY

Following a number of requests on the air from stations still needing a QSO with EU106 I decided to look into the possibility of a short weekend trip to these islands. The starting point for enquiries, as always, was the nearest tourist information office; in this case Pwllheli. They put me in touch with a souvenir shop at Abersoch which co-ordinates all the fishing and boat trips in the area and everything, including landing permission, was speedily arranged.

To get all the equipment into one car I had to restrict the expedition members to three people, so I was joined by Andrew G0HSD (who needs no further introduction) and Robbie Barnes KC6OSS. Robbie is a PhD student at Queens' College Cambridge and though a newcomer to amateur radio has held an FCC commercial DJ's licence for a number of years. While at high school in Monterey, California, he ran the Friday evening show on a local FM station and is definitely not microphone shy. He told us that the usual feedback from his transmissions came in the form of record requests, sexual propositions, and death threats, so he may find QSL cards rather dull! He gained his US licence over here having signed up for the C.U. Wireless Soc at the start of his stay.

Setting out early from Cambridge to collect Andrew (whose MG has still to recover from its attempt to reach the Shiant Is last year) we reached Abersoch at about 4 p.m.. Parking next to a trailer mounted speedboat we threw the gear in and relaxed inside the boat while a tractor towed us over the beach and straight into the water. Quite a contrast to McNutt's Is where the boat had to be dragged on rollers across the beach.

The islands are about 2 miles from Abersoch so it was only a few minutes later that we were ashore with all the kit and the usual massive reserves of food and water. It is essential to take additional supplies in case a change in the weather leaves you marooned but sometimes the weight of everything gets to be

a little daunting. There really was little difference between the load for 3 people overnight and the usual G6UW group of 6 people for 3-4 nights. Or am I getting old?

On St Tudwal's Island West we were faced with a scramble of several hundred yards to the only flat ground, by the lighthouse on the summit about 150' asl. Most of the supplies were left by the jetty and the bare minimum taken up - just a tent, antenna, rig, and car battery. Some of the remaining kit was brought up later but a lot was cached close to the landing stage.

The WX was kind on the Friday evening and we were able to operate in the open air until close to midnight, with an attentive audience of rats peeking out from the long grass. Overnight it became wet and windy and the following morning we slept in until the weather showed signs of improvement around 0800z. Apologies to any west coast ops who looked for us earlier. We never got the second station on the air as the Butternut was still in its box (so would have taken some time to assemble and tune) and it didn't seem worth hauling further gear up the hill for no more than a few hours operating. Even with one station we managed several hundred QSOs and filled a gap for a number of IOTA-philes (or should it be IOTAmanes?). The highlight was a QSO with Steve P29DX who called us on 21260.

The speedboat returned for us at 1800z and with the gear loaded up front to weigh down the bows we took off at top speed for Abersoch, slaloming through the maze of anchored yachts. The driver had a party to go to and we were back in seconds. It would probably have been possible to stay on the island until Sunday morning but had the weather changed we might not have made it back to work on the Monday.

Another successful DXpedition. But where should we go next?

HAM CALENDAR

I am getting an order together for the 1992 Ham PhotoCalendars which will be available shortly from KB1T. They will cost £12 each all inclusive.
Please order you calendar by 31st October. Please make cheques payable to Andrew Shaw and send your order to:
Andrew Shaw, The Rectory, Church End, Bledlow, Aylesbury,

SHIANT AND SUMMER IS. OPERATION 1991

Andrew Shaw, G0HSD

"Did you turn the light off?"

"Yes Martin" I said in a rather fatigued tone, "you can check if you like."

"I might just do that" he replied, and turned the engine off and unlocked and re-entered the house for the eighth time. Will we ever get going?

At last, we set off from Cambridge at 7.20am. The target was to get up to Ullapool that evening and hop onto the ferry across to the Outer Hebrides the following morning. The morning was dull and we hoped that the British summer that was being enjoyed in the South would not journey up the A1 with us.

After a couple of stops the whole team were assembled; Catherine G6OQA, Martin G3ZAY, John G0NSI and myself. We were soon on the Great North Road with a trailer filled to the brim with everything from lentils to coax.

We reached Ullapool at about 7.30pm and after touring the town looking for the camp site, narrowly missing a massed band of pipers in the process, we pitched the tents, had dinner and made for the pub. It was great to be in a civilised country again!

We wandered back to the tents at midnight, enjoying the peace and quiet only disturbed by the occasional seabird or chug of a fishing boat.

The next morning we were up bright and early and packed up the gear and headed for the quay. The ferry was late, so we had time for a bite to eat in the 'Frigate'. Before long the ferry arrived and we boarded.

The crossing was fun. There was quite a breeze and swell and it was fun watching all the yachts tackling the waves. The sun soon broke through and we were basking in brilliant sunshine of unrivalled purity. We passed the Summer Islands on our starboard side, where we hoped to visit at the end of our stay and to our port, somewhere in the murk were the Shiants.

We arrived in Stornoway at 1.30pm and bought the last of our supplies. Martin phoned our boatman, John Cunningham, to see if he could get us over to the Shiant Is. that night. Martin then phoned Donald Wilkie, who had been our boatman two years ago on the Flannans/St. Kilda trip. We called on him for a few minutes during which he recalled the "BLUE TRANSIT" story and said that he had added that to his repertoire of yarns.

It started to rain. Hell. We drove the 39 miles from Stornoway to Tarbert on the Isle of Harris, where we stopped for tea and to visit Abdul's Stores. Abdul sold EVERYTHING. Wellies, food, knicker elastic, magnifying glasses and fishing rods. I stocked up with

Mars bars and Irn Bru and we headed off for Kyles Scalpay.

Kyles Scalpay is four Harris miles down a very windy single track road and is just a landing stage for the Isle of Scalpay ferry. We unloaded the clobber and hauled it down to the waterside. John Cunningham turned up at 6.30 in the 'Gertrudis' and we were off. I had given John (G0NSI) a valuable lesson on how to OD on Stugeron, so he was zonked for the journey.

The Shiants or Shants as they are known are an uninhabited group of islands five miles off the East coast of Harris. We were heading for Eilean an Tighe, the second largest and less sheer island of the group. Tighe is joined onto Garbh Eilean by a bank of pebbles, which we were told got swamped during storms. On Tighe is a small cottage, built by Compton McKenzie, which is in a wonderful state, a sort of cross between homeliness and dilapidation.

After an hour and a half we were there. The huge cliffs of Garbh to our port and the cottage on Tighe in front of us. It was mid evening, the sun was low in the sky, sending orange light onto the hard granite rocks.

Gertrudis was turned round and Sandie, John Cunningham's first mate drew the rowing boat along side, We lowered the kit into it and Catherine and I went ashore. Sandie had been using rowing boats all his life and carefully manoeuvred it in and out of the barely submerged rocks.

Soon all the kit and folk were ashore and we waved goodbye to John and Sandie, who we hoped would remember to collect us in a few days.

The next tricky task was lifting the rigs, generators, whisky bottles etc... across the seaweed covered rocks to dry land. Not an easy feat not to mention exhausting.

Before long we had everything up to the cottage. After a mug of soup we got to work putting up the tents. This we did behind the cottage where there was the only piece of flat, dry land on the island. Supper was made and washed down with a bottle of claret, while we sat outside admiring a fantastic Hebridean sunset at midnight.

The next day we got to work early. The Butternut and the dipole were erected and the TS120s and FT101ZD were put on the air. The day got progressively hotter and before long I had stripped to my shorts and working the pile at 3 a minute whilst basking in the sunshine.

During the afternoon I went for a plod around the island. I got to the top and to the South I could see Skye in the distance. I also saw a yacht that was making its way round the back of the island and looked as if it was about to land. We were soon joined by some curious passers-by, one of whom turned out to be a G7!!

Martin and Catherine were still bashing away on the bands so I decided to go for a swim. Martin

followed with the sole intent, I later discovered, to see my face when I jumped into the water. IT WAS C O L D !! The Gulf Stream is purely a myth!

Whilst I was trying to get some feeling back into my legs another boat landed. These folk were not so friendly and kept a discreet watch on us from a distance throughout the evening and took great interest in what we were doing on the island although not showing any enthusiasm! Next morning, when we woke, they were gone without trace.

We were on the islands for the weekend of the Summer 160m Contest. Dave, G4BUO, had asked me if it would be possible to activate the Western Isles in the contest. Martin spent the Saturday building a 160m dipole which seemed to work quite well.

I was in the cottage relaxing with a glass of Talisker when I asked Martin if he was going to get the key out and have a bash. "It was your idea...you do it!" he said. Mmm CW, outside, in the dark, on a rat infested island, with an empty glass...not on your nellie. However I went outside and fumbled around in the half light. I had great difficulty using Martin's key...the "dit" paddle had a fault and I dread to think what it sounded like to the poor folk I was working! Martin blamed it on the scotch....until he had a go!!

On the Sunday I awoke not a well man. John and I had been having an in-depth discussion with a whisky bottle until 3am in front of the peat fire in the cottage. One bowl of Martin's thick porridge put paid to the hangover and I emptied the left overs into the rock pool that contained the previous days dead porridge. This pool will one day come to life and this huge mass of congealed porridge will be the scourge of the Minch.

The contacts were still marking up, we made well over 1000 Qs in our stay. After another day of scorching weather we finished the operation in the Cottage around a peat fire on old chairs, looking at the old crinkled books by the light of the tilly lamp. Martin, ever the true blue DXer had the 101 perched on his lap still calling CQ. I wrote in the visitors book whilst staring out of the window to the sea and the cry of the seabirds.

At 9.30 on the Monday, the Gertrudis appeared on the horizon. We carted all the stuff across the rocks to meet Sandie in the rowing boat. The gear was almost loaded and I mentioned to Martin how there had been no disaster this trip and that we were getting too good at it. I spoke too soon.

I was standing with the 101 in my hands whilst astride a 3ft stretch of water that was lapping in and out with the swell. As I handed the rig to Martin, I slipped and disappeared rig and all into the sea. Martin went white! I held the rig at arms length to keep it out of the sea whilst I was up to my waist in freezing water. Martin grabbed the rig and I scrambled out with a torn wellie.

John Cunningham leant over the side of the boat and said in a soft Gaelic voice, "Aye, it be good for the corns on a Monday morning."

After circling around the islands to see the seals we headed for the main land. We disembarked and headed to Tarbert for lunch. Later on we were at the camp site near Stornoway when Martin said "Where's the Butternut?". It would appear that it was not tied on to the roof rack when we pulled off and had flown off into the distance somewhere en route. The next day we drove back to look for it, but alas, no sign. It has probably been used as a fence post or part of a still by now!

On Wednesday we were on the ferry heading back to Ullapool. We drove from Ullapool to Achiltibuie and caught a fishing boat to the Summer isles. It was late on in the evening and we only had time to make a few QSOs before we turned in.

As we only had the one antenna now we each had a lot of spare time to mooch about. The islands are inhabited by a small number of people and a tourist boat comes twice a day. There is a wonderful little cafe called The Boathouse, owned by the boatman's wife so we were saved from the porridge at least for one day.

I climbed to top of the island and from there could see a good chunk of Wester Ross and all the beautiful mountains of the North West Coast.

We were only active for a little less than 24 hours but worked several hundred of the Deserving (an in term I gather). We packed up and left at 7.30pm and headed straight for the pub at Polbain where we were the talk of bar. Every now and again little old men would come over and introduce themselves to the 'strangers' and showed real interest in our activities.

On the way to the camp site at midnight Martin told me that I had better not delay our departure the following morning (I'd had a beer or two), so to spite him I got up at 5.30am, washed packed up and spent an hour on the beach until the vague utterances that indicate consciousness were heard from his tent!

Thank you for working us and hope to see you in the pile next year!

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RAMBLINGS OF A DX EDITOR
Brendan McCartney, G4DYO

What an extraordinary sun spot maxima DXers have had, culminating (as this is being written) in a truly superb operation from Myanmar by Romeo Stepanenko and his team signing XY0RR. Last time this country - previously known as Burma - was activated to the extent that it was valid DXCC was by Don Miller back in 1965 when he signed XZ2TZ. The Burmese Government later sent a letter to the ITU stating that no amateur radio had been permitted since January, 1964 so question marks still hang over that DXpedition, even if the cards were accepted, and many who worked that one will have worked XY0RR in the knowledge that it is a really "good" one. Some 85% of the worlds DXers were believed to need Myanmar and, although Romeo and friends have done a magnificent job of hammering away day and night for several weeks there are bound to be a few unfortunate souls who missed it. Whether Romeo's operation has opened a chink in the Myanmar Government's apparent anti-amateur radio attitude is not known; if it has, then we can expect to see a few other well-known names trying for licences soon. Imagine being the first XY to enter CQWW!!

Romeo and friends have a remarkable string of successes behind them, with DXpeditions to Vietnam, Spratly, Afghanistan, etc. Exactly how they pull off the seemingly impossible is known to but a chosen few. However, us mere mortals must be ever in the debt of these intrepid expeditioners and those of similar persuasion for the risks they take and the appalling conditions under which they operate to satisfy our needs for a "new one". If you need convincing, read the 1S0XV and YA0RR stories in DX News Sheet or watch the video tape of the Hungarian DXpedition to Vietnam.

There is one world of a difference between sitting in a comfortable shack surrounded by expensive gear and sitting in some rat-infested hovel wondering where your next meal is coming from.. It is curious, therefore, that the response to appeals for funds to assist such amateur operations is usually so small. The excuses have to be heard to be believed and usually end with "...but I'll put in an extra IRC when I QSL". Astonishing - and very difficult to understand! Thankfully, when appeals of this nature are promulgated the usual old-timers, many of whom have the country in question worked and confirmed from years ago, are among the first to contribute and publicising their efforts usually coaxes a few of the newer DXers to reach among the moths in their

wallets. DX News Sheet has run three major appeals, for DXpeditions to Bouvet, Afghanistan and Myanmar, and that for XY0RR was far and away the most productive. Just why is not wholly clear, except that Burma - as DXers will always call it - has been a wanted one for the deserving for longer than many care to remember. In fact many fairly "senior" and well-respected DXers were not even born when it was last activated. The appeal for Bouvet - also very rare - produced a drop in the ocean by comparison, although at the time it was almost as rare and we ran a mini contest and offered various goodies to encourage readers to contribute. Whether DX News Sheet will run any further appeals I do not know; although the benefits are enormous and there is a genuine feeling among contributors that they have done their bit, the harping from the very tiny "anti" minority is almost too much to take.

As this piece is being written Jacky, 3B8CF has at last shown up from St Brandon signing /3B7. Jacky, and others of the Mauritius Society, have been trying for sometime to obtain permission to activate the outer islands without success. On 25th July Rashid Karroo, 3B8FP, secretary of the Mauritius ARS broadcast a statement that despite a major effort, permission to activate St Brandon had been refused by the authorities. It is some ten years since the island was last activated and this was heartbreaking news to many DXers - some of whom needed just three to finish, XZ, ZA and 3B6/7. The thought of the two rarest countries suddenly appearing and leaving them needing just 3B6 was enough to reduce some to babbling hysteria. As if that wasn't enough when, after several weeks of on/off rumours, when Jacky finally showed up he seemed to spend most of his time on nets and lists. Thankfully, he soon started operating freestyle - immediately increasing his QSO rate by a factor of about 20 and reducing assorted blood pressures by a similar amount! Incidentally, if there is still anyone who doubts the sheer stupidity of list working, I can thoroughly recommend the video of VK2EKY's 1990 Pacific Tour.... during his ZK3EKY operation Zbig joined a well-known 20m net and showed how several hours were wasted while an Australian took a huge list of people, many of whom didn't want a contact with Tokelaus, leaving Zbig plenty of time to bring his log up to date, enjoy a fish dinner, etc, etc! A brilliant demonstration of the futility of such activities.

The DX Magazine's 1991 Most Wanted Countries Survey has been balloted and the results are eagerly awaited. Last year's top twenty included XZ, YA, 7O, ET, HK0, A5, 3B6/7, CE0 San Felix and Spratly, all of which have seen good "bashes" since. This year's list is going to look dramatically different. Assuming that Albania shows up as promised (you should have it

in your log as you read this), the top Most Wanted Countries are likely to include South Sandwich (tentatively promised for March, 92), Peter Island, Libya and Heard Island. Bangladesh was No.7 last year and the small operations mounted during the last 12 months are unlikely to have knocked it too far down the list. However, Jim Smith has worked patiently and tirelessly with the Bangladesh Government and his efforts were rewarded on 28th August when a meeting of the T & T Board agreed to the introduction of Amateur Radio in Bangladesh. You can bet your life that Jim will do everything possible to get S2 on the airwaves again as quickly as possible.

So, with all the activity in the DX world where does it leave those lucky enough to have finished DXCC? How about the WARC bands? Antennas for 12 and 17m are a piece of cake to build (dare I suggest five-quid quads which blow holes in the ionosphere?) and something for 30m should be possible in even a fairly small garden. DXing never ends - there is always something to chase, a new band or mode slot for DXCC. If that is not enough there is always IOTA, the first major challenge to DXCC as a status operating award - AND it's administered by G's!!

Good DXing...

CDXC
CHILTERN DX CLUB

WANTED...DEAD OR ALIVE

In the last couple of years we have seen most of the rarest countries in the world aired in the most spectacular ways possible. YA, 1S, 3Y, 3W, XU, BY and now XZ have been put through their paces and hopefully,by the time this newsletter hits the streets, Martti and the gang will be establishing amateur radio in Albania !!!! For a select few,this raises the question, What Do We Work Next ?

For The Few Myanmar was their last country. Others, like myself, still have their work cut out catching up on the ones that haven't been on while they have been licensed or were and they missed them! Some of the latter tend to be easy countries one or two embarrassingly so.

So I thought it would be fun to find out which are NOW the UK DXers most wanted countries and publish the results in the Newsletter. So please send me you "Wanted" lists and I will collate all the information and publish the UK Top 20 in the next issue.

This will only be accurate if a large number of stations participate. So PLEASE put pen to paper (or send me a packet) and get scribbling!! Even if you only need one or two countries...it will help build up a balanced view.

Andrew, G0HSD

CDXC CONTESTING
Paul Evans, G4BKI

This starts what I hope will a series on contesting, dealing with some of the background and technical issues of the present day contesting scene. Many contesting & operating columns fall solidly into the 'results only' category, providing only a resume of a particular contest's results. I would hope that CDXC, although primarily a DX club, could produce some interesting discussion and comment on the subject of contesting, given such a 'power base' of contesters amongst its ranks.

Some topics we might like to cover in the next few issues could be the effect on RSGB Contests of the increase in permitted CW power level here in the UK, contest stations themselves, technical improvements, etc.

Before getting into the column proper, let me introduce myself this time around. I was licensed at the age of 14 and have been on the air now for nearly 20 years. The first 6 years or so of this were spent chasing DX incessantly and contesting in a small way. I remember my first shaky Scandinavian contest very well, with trusty HW-101 and wire antenna. Although I spent nearly 6 months on SSB & remember vowing that CW was out-dated, somehow the bug struck (around the same time as that first contest) and SSB figured less & less in my home station log. Now, I operate SSB from other contest stations & very, very occasionally for skeds, but it doesn't mean that I can't keep up with the best on sideband, though!

On CW I'm rated as a 190+ man and was close to that rate for many of the best hours of the last CQ WW CW, but it hinges so much on mood, conditions and WHO you work to squeeze that extra 10 QSOs per hour out of the band. I'm also a member of the RSGB HF Contests Committee, the RSGB HF Committee, Awards Manager of CDXC and a member of FOC.

At home I am very restricted for antenna space (although I may move soon) and can only get a Butternut HF6VX up in the air. This is fed by a TS-940S and SB200 and keying is by Autek MK1 keyer with a Bencher paddle. I will shortly be adding a new N2DAN Mercury paddle to the ensemble, when it is ready for me.

As for contest results, I've always been limited by antennas, so they have mostly come from other locations. I was one of three operators to make VP9IB 2nd in North America in the 1979 WPX SSB when I remember making about 5k QSOs (quite an achievement back in those days, I gather!). The one time I've had a very good antenna was a zone winning entry in the 1984 Radiosport Contest, a record unbeaten as Radiosport demised soon after. the score was over 5 times that of the

nearest station in the zone (a G), and the driving force was a TS-130S to a very long Vee beam.

Apart from other minor placings (3rds/4ths) in ARRL & CQWW, etc. and a few section wins in RSGB Contests, home operating has always been a struggle. Oh, for a tower & beam to get nearer the top of the heap! The home station is not ALL struggle and does work amazingly well. Most DX is worked first or second call and it manages to place me near the top 10 cluster reporters. My recent entry to the ranks of FOC has re-kindled an old joy, rag-chewing and I'm thoroughly enjoying talking to new & old friends alike. My recent win in the FOC Jubilee 'Contest' gave me huge satisfaction & I'd rate it as one of the most enjoyable & thrilling wins of my amateur radio years, especially after 16 days of mammoth effort and (mostly) awful conditions. Given the right determination, I suppose it does prove that little 'peanut whistles' CAN do it!

For you newcomers to contesting, don't be discouraged at your station performance, build your operating skill at every opportunity and one of these days you might operate at the mega-station of your choice, or better yet, you might be lucky enough to own one.

Next time we'll start the column proper and look at the top contesting station situation in the UK. Good Luck & good operating.

CQ WW CONTEST

Last year CDXC members made a big impact in the CQ Worldwide contests. In the phone contest GW4BLE was 2nd European single-op all-band with a massive 6,329,120 points, while G3FXB was top European, and world 2nd on 14MHz with 1,423,450 points. GB0DX (G4BUE learning to use his voice) was 3rd in Europe on 7MHz with 392,160 points. GW4OFQ was world and European number 2 on 3.8MHz with 135,590 points and GU6UW (primarily CDXC members) was 3rd in Europe in the multi-single category with 13,155,792 points. CDXC members also featured prominently in the other major multi-op teams (GW8GT and G0KPW). There were others too, of course. An excellent effort all round, and likely to be matched in the CW results which have yet to reach this side of the pond.

Which brings us to this year's contests. The format is as in previous years except that there is now a 100W (barefoot) category which I believe will appeal to many, either because they don't own linears or because they can't run them for 48 hours without getting irate visits from most of the neighbourhood.

I'm not sure that CDXC will be able to muster an entry in the Team category this year, although the rules seem to have been relaxed so that a Team need no longer span more than one continent. It appears

(cont'd on p.35)

CDXC DXDAY

As you will have seen in the last Newsletter, it has been proposed that a CDXC DX-day should be held. Feedback from members has been good and it has been decided to go ahead this year as proposed.
There were some interesting comments made by a few. Someone asked if this competition might include the WARC bands. Good question. However, having studied the feeling at the ARM in May, it seemed that the idea of any form of contesting on the WARC bands was not welcome. So, at least for this year, we will stick just to the main 6 HF bands.
As I said last time, this event is designed to test the DXing skill of those taking part. NO lists, clusters, CQ calls, even mentioning that you are in a contest will not be allowed!! A pure exercise in "Winkling 'em out!".

THE RULES

1) To work as many DXCC countries as possible within the specified period of time, WITHOUT calling CQ, joining lists, using the PacketCluster or mentioning that you are in a contest on the air.
2) Operating sections: CW only, SSB only or mixed mode full power and QRP (under 100w)
3) Time periods: 0000z-1159z and 1200z-2359z each period being on a separate weekend.
4) A country may only be worked ONCE on HF (one contact not one per band.), but may be worked on EACH of the LF bands.
5) Bands: 160m - 10m excluding WARC bands.
7) The entrant must observe the terms of his/her licence.

DATES

Sunday 22nd December 1991 (0000 to 1159) & Saturday 4th January 1992 (1200 to 2359)

SCORING

Each country is worth 3 points. On 10, 40, 80 and 160m Pacific countries (excluding VK/ZL) are worth 10 points.
Both halves of the contest will be scored separately and the score of both time periods of the contest added together for the total score.

LOG

A separate log should be kept for each band, showing time, callsign, reports and claimed points for that contact, FOR EACH TIME PERIOD.
These should be submitted with a cover page (including total score and a declaration that you have abided by the rules and spirit of the contest) to: G0HSD, The Rectory, Church End, Bledlow, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP17 9PD. no later than 31st January 1992

NEWS FROM MEMBERS

From Neville Bethune, G3RFS/ 6Y5FS I really had to agree with the writer of the letter regarding duplicate QSOs. Since being first licensed in 1962, I have had a few DX QSL cards returned to me saying "Not in log". A number of times, these contacts were 59+ both ways ! Therefore like many DXers worldwide, I have insurance contacts on CW, especially if it is a new country for me. Another moan I have is that I have sent a well known VK9 DXer two QSL cards for separate DX country QSOs in one envelope, with more than enough $ to cover return postage and a small donation and I had one card returned, and a note saying, "Apply again for other QSL in separate envelope!!". Needless to say I did not send another card.

In recent years I have operated from 6Y5, KP1, 9Y4, CU2 etc... and appreciate the problems that exist with duplicated QSO/QSLs, but I still hold the view, it's only a hobby, and not a money making venture.

73s Neville Bethune, G3RFS/ 6Y5FS

From Don McLean, G3NOF

I have never written to the CDXC Newsletter before but there were a few items in the July issue on which I wished to comment.

1) My Newsletter which was posted on 14th August was received on 16th August. I am not complaining but on page 19 mention is made of the bar-be-que on 17th August. This would only give members a day's notice of the event which is not much time. Perhaps the Newsletter could be posted a little earlier in future.

2) I agree with G3ZAY's praise for the DXNS edited by Bren, G4DYO. Each week I have a sked with K2IJ, who has several US DX newsheets, to exchange information. Very often DXNS is much more up to date than the US ones.

3) I sympathise with the writer of the letter about "Duplicate Contacts" as I too have made one QSO and then had my QSL returned as "Not in Log". My plan with the rare ones is to try to get other QSOs on different bands. Sometimes towards the end of a DXpedition and I hear them calling with very few replies I will make a duplicate QSO. So far I have not had any problems.

4) I have now been using CDXC QSL cards for almost a year and receiving many complimentary remarks about them. Members might like to know that the picture on them is of the small hamlet of Cheddington, Dorset about ten miles SW of Yeovil and five miles S of Creherne. I have been there and checked on the site.

5) AGM para. 19. Entirely agree with this para. as I regularly use 144.525. Not everyone is on Cluster. I can often hear and contact members in the Berks, Bucks + Surrey area.

6) Steve P29DX has been on 21Mhz SSB on Fridays around 1500z. I worked him on 30th August on 21.283. He is using a Butternut HF6V.

Vy 73 es DX, Don, G3NOF

G6LX, Some Background Information
By Ron Glaisher, G6LX

First licensed in 1936 while at school. Father had held a call, G2AP, but was inactive and preferred that I used his gear with a licence rather than pirate on 40m phone! In RAF during the war on radar, got the DX bug when licences re-issued and have been at it ever since. Was one of the first G's on SSB in the early 50's and in the 60's and 70's specialised in 80m DXing with 278 countries confirmed on the band. Have travelled the world on business assignments and have held 22 different calls in five continents, including some of the 'rich and rare' where I have been on the wrong end of pile-ups! Have been a member of the RSGB HF Contests Committee since 1946 (with one or two breaks while overseas) and was the Chairman for a number of years. Have been involved with IARU Region 1 for the past 12 years and currently the Chairman of their HF Contest Group and a member of the Regional HF Committee.

From Brendan, G4DYO. Congratulations to the new Officers of CDXC and good luck to them in their endeavours.

It was most heartening to read Martin Atherton's comments in the July issue of CDXC Newsletter as my feelings about the "British attitude" to HF DXing (note HF) have roughly parallelled Martin's for many years. It was not until I became the editor of DX News Sheet and discovered that so many of the subscribers lived abroad that it really hit home how very few really keen HF DXers there

are in the UK.In fact, even though the subscription list is almost back to where it was in Geoff Watts' heyday, the majority of subscribers are still outside the UK! Why?

So how do we motivate UK DXers into playing a more active part in the hobby and thereby encourage others to join us? The Chiltern DX Club exists to bring together and promote the interests of HF DXers in the UK, yet it receives comparatively poor support from members, other than the keen nucleus of DXers who keep things ticking over.. Why? The recent Bar-BQ at G0HSD's QTH was very poorly supported, although this was to the distinct benefit of those who did attend as they enjoyed a superb afternoon with Andrew and his family. A few more souls dragged themselves along to meet VS6CT at my QTH, but the extra

(cont'd on p.35)

THE LOT

Laurie Margolis, G3UML

The contact took slightly longer than I expected.

"Mexico-Lima?".
"George Three Uniform Mexico Lima, George Three Uniform Mexico Lima, five nine, over." (Truthfully, about five-four).
"George Three Uniform Mike Lima. Five nine" (but this is under a lot of racket).
"Please confirm my call--George Three Uniform Mike Lima" (this one has to be perfect).
"George Three Uniform Mike Lima (very deliberately, Russian accented), five nine"
"QSL, good luck."

And then, to be honest, a rather downbeat feeling. A journey that began with a contact with G3HYF on August 12, 1965 ended twenty six years and three weeks later on 21295/335 split, with a good contact with XY0RR. A day later,a twenty metre contact made absolutely certain, and so that was it. I'd worked every country. DXCC score now 349/323, with only 323 possible. That piece of typewritten paper I'd always kept with my want-list on it suddenly had nothing under the All-Time Need category.

Maybe the feeling of anti-climax is because the goalposts are moving. By the time this is read, a North Korea operation may be on the horizon. (Followed by a rapid deletion, if world trends effect Korea too). Jarvis may have been added, though the card for that one is safely in the file. Who knows how many countries may spin out of the chaos of the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia? But, as this is written, and for the first time in a quarter of a century of intensive DX-ing, I've got the lot.

My first hundred countries took nine days, aided by the fact that because my late father was an amateur (G3NMR), I had good equipment plus seven years of SWL'ing behind me from day one. Two hundred countries were in the log by the beginning of 1966, and three hundred by the end of the decade. At the time, certain countries which are now very rare were commonplace. Looking at the RSGB 21/28Mhz contest for 1965, I have a sequence which includes Angola, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Aden, Afghanistan and Laos, none of which would have caused great excitement then. The American Pacific -- Marshalls, Midway, American Phoenix-- were difficult but available, while the Commonwealth and French Pacific

-- Western Samoa, Tokelau, Wallis Island, Niue -- which are now regularly activated were very rare indeed.

Honour Roll came in 1977. ARRL notified me I was on it a year earlier -- their mistake -- and then progress became very slow indeed through the late seventies and early eighties. The rate, at least in numerical terms, has speeded up lately with the recent rash of new ones. I never expected to get to 340 all time; the, 350 sticker looks likely.

But that All-Time needed list always had something on it. Since the mid-eighties there was Bouvet and Burma. (Albania I had, through one of those freaks of life. In the summer of 1970, I was in the USA. I messed up my first-year university exams, had to return early for resits, and that was when ZA2RPS came on.) Bouvet happened, but Burma looked unlikely. Of course, I had a stack of XZ5A and XZ9A cards, and even a very convincing looking one from DF8MP/XZ at the German embassy in Rangoon, but nothing that counted. In fact, Burma continued to look improbable until XY0RR opened up, and I for one still wait fascinated to hear how the Russians managed to pull this one off against extraordinary obstacles.

Assuming Albania has been re-activated by the time this is read -- and for that one I shall sit back and enjoy picking off band-countries -- the question will arise of how quickly it would have been possible to work the lot. Until XY0RR, minimum was 27 years, back to the last 1964 Burma operation. Now, in early September, with Burma on the air but not yet Albania, it's twenty years, back to ZA5Z in 1971. When Albania happens, the potential time for doing the lot will have shortened dramatically, back about nine years to when LU3ZY was active from South Sandwich. And if THAT happens early next year, as looks possible, it may well have proved feasible to have worked every current DXCC country within as little as four or five years.

As a personal illustration, after I married and moved to North West London, I began a separate DXCC count, what I call my Hendon list, starting in January 1980. Assuming I make a ZA contact, that will leave just five current countries I haven't worked since 1980 -- Clipperton, American Phoenix, Palmyra, Bangladesh and South Sandwich. All have been active in that period; I just didn't work them. (If Jarvis isn't allowed, it will knock off either KH5 or KH1). As it happens, everything will have been worked with simple wire antennas, and with a beam I would almost have certainly have worked the five outstanding countries since 1980. There must be several of you out there -- G0CGL for one I'm sure -- who could compress that timescale a great deal.

So what now? When my DXCC quest began the initials STD were just becoming familiar. Now I can direct-dial two hundred and thirty countries. The mere fact of working DX still appeals, even if the sheer wonder of it

is somewhat less. Despite a holiday which took me to Mount Desert Island, Martha's Vineyard and some interesting islands off New Brunswick, IOTA fails to appeal (sorry Roger). Neither does DXing on the WARC bands. I think it's a shame they've become competitive, since as 'leisure' bands they effectively shut up the anti-DX and contest whingers. I still need lots of band countries on the 'real' bands, and I'm still bearing down, very slowly, on the 500 target for the top category of the RSGB's mysteriously invisible Five Band Commonwealth Century award, a very tough proposition indeed, and one the RSGB resolutely refuse to promote. There's plenty to do, but I still have to get used to the blank space on that All-Time Needs list!

PENALTT TROPHY

Congratulations to Steve GW4BLE who has won the Penaltt Trophy for the second time! Well done.

There has been in the past some confusion about the rules for this award. I hope that the following will help explain and encourage you to participate this LF season.

This award is in memory of Alan Phillips, GW0BIC, who was an avid DXer and member of the Western DX Group and CDXC. He was especially keen on LF DXing and it was thought that it would be fitting if a memorial cup could be presented annually to the person who worked the most countries on 40 and 80m on any five days of your choice (including contests) between 1st October 1991 and 31st March 1992.

To enter you must work at least 100 countries on 40 & 80m combined. eg: 75 on 80m and 25 on 40m or 99 on 80m and 30 on 40m...any combination you like!

Details on log submission will be printed in the Newsletter on a future date. Meanwhile you are reminded that the Trophy is a splendid silver cup and will be presented to Steve at Daventry.

FIRST OPERATION BY BRITISH AMATEURS FROM UZBEKISTAN, USSR

4TH TO 10TH MAY 1991

P.A. WHITCHURCH G3SWH AND J.C.B.STEELE G3LZK

It was almost by accident that I went to Tashkent in Uzbekistan. Barry, G3LZK had somehow struck up a correspondence with Nazim, UI8AA after only a couple of QSO's on CW and had in 1989 received an invitation for him and his wife Helen to take a holiday in Tashkent, staying with Nazim and his family. Now Helen is not much of a traveller and as a result Barry rather dismissed the whole idea as Helen did not want to go, but being a crafty so and so, left the matter of a possible future trip open. The idea was resurrected in August 1990, when Barry mentioned to me that he had had this invitation, and was I interested in going with him.

Well, my wife, Jan was on holiday in France with my two children at the time, leaving me at home, so I put my tongue firmly in my cheek and said 'yes', firmly believing that we would be defeated by the bureaucracy. Surprisingly, Jan (who has long nursed not-so-secret ambitions to visit the USSR) agreed that I could go.

I never made any secret of the fact that my primary interest in the trip was in operating from a location which, if not very DX-otic, was certainly different. I also felt that we might achieve a world 'first' by being the first non - USSR nationals to operate from Uzbekistan. As it turned out, some Americans had done it a couple of years earlier, but we were certainly the first British amateurs to do so.

Barry's motives were initially less amateur radio orientated and more directed towards realising a long held ambition of visiting that part of the USSR, especially the legendary city of Samarkand, but as time went on he became more and more enthusiastic about the amateur radio possibilities. We are both members of the Chiltern DX Club, (CDXC), the Royal Naval Amateur Radio Society, (RNARS) and Barry was in the throes of joining me as a member of the First Class CW Operators' Club, (FOC). He was actually made a full member only 9 days before we left London. Being both primarily interested in CW operating, the prospects of operating from UI- land became more and more interesting as the days went by.

Barry duly wrote to Nazim explaining that Helen could not go and asking if he could bring me instead and on 25th October 1990 he received a telegram from him saying 'No problems, wait for you and Philip in May. Fly to Moscow then

to Tashkent.' Little did we realise the complexities to come in obtaining the necessary permits to make the trip. To spread the effort, Barry and I agreed that he would organise the transport and travel documents and I would organise the amateur radio licences.

I thus duly wrote off to Box 88 on 10th September and some weeks later received a letter in Russian dated 4th October and signed by a Mr V Bondarenko, Head of the Krenkel Central Radio Club of the USSR. The translated letter told me that in order to get a licence, it would be necessary to send to Moscow 'a petition of your national organisation and a copy of your amateur licence no later than two months in advance.' When I sent copies of the correspondence to the RSGB, they fortunately knew exactly what a 'petition' was and sent both Barry and I letters of introduction by return of post. About the middle of November, I sent copies of these letters, plus copies of the two licences back to Mr Bondarenko at Box 88.

When we had had no response by the turn of the year I contacted Al Slater, G3FXB who I knew had previously visited Leningrad and Moscow with Den Andrews, G3MXJ. Al suggested that I should try making contact with Nick Kazansky, UA3AF, who is Deputy Chairman of the RSF, and I duly sent off copies of all the correspondence to him on 7th January 1991.

Barry had also been in contact over the air with FOC member Vlad, U3DR who turned out to be our saviour as far as this trip was concerned. Without Vlad's help I doubt whether we would have got the licences. I wrote to him in detail on 31st December 1990 and he was good enough to set up weekly skeds between UI8AA, himself and the two of us when he was able to translate Nazim's questions to us into English, and of course our replies and our own questions into Russian for Nazim. No mean feat in morse code! He was also good enough to contact both Mr Bondarenko and Nick Kazansky on our behalf and wrote to me on 7th February to confirm that our licence copies etc. had been received at Box 88 and that Nick Kazansky would issue the authorities for us to operate from Tashkent, upon receipt of a personal declaration from Nazim that he had invited us to visit him and giving his permission for us to use his radio equipment. This was the first that we had heard of the necessity for Nazim to formally give his permission, but Vlad had already written to him requesting him to comply with Kazansky's requirements.

In mid February, around about the same time that I received Vlad's encouraging letter I also received another letter from Box 88, dated 18th February, this time signed by Nick Kazansky and again in Russian. Unfortunately, the text of the letter was a virtual repeat of the one which I had received in late Octo-

ber, except that it was now asking for the 'consent of the Soviet radio station with whom we proposed to carry on the broadcasting work', plus licences etc. to be lodged with the RSF 1.5 to 2 months before our arrival in the Soviet Union. As we were planning to travel in early May, that information caused much doom and gloom.

However, Al G3FXB had given me what he claimed to be the fax and telephone number of Box 88, so Barry and I put our heads together and concocted a letter to Nick Kazansky, setting out our concerns and asking for his help in hurrying things along. Thus, on 12th March I took the bull by the horns and, using my employer's telephone (of course), called Moscow, hoping that whoever answered the phone could recognise English, if not speak it themselves! You can imagine my surprise when in reply to my diffident 'Do you speak English?' came the answer in perfect English 'Of course I can speak English'. The number which I had called was in fact that of a computer business run by Gene, RA3AA who did have a fax machine and who promised faithfully to pass my letter on to Nick Kazansky, who he claimed to know well. To be on the safe side, I also posted the letter, but whether Kazansky ever received either the fax or the letter I don't know, as we never received a reply.

We maintained our weekly skeds with both Vlad and Nazim, and Vlad kept in touch with Nick Kazansky, but each week there appeared to be no news about the licences. I think that Nazim was getting as frustrated as us, as he had written to Box 88 as requested on several occasions and, like us, got no replies. However, we were finally notified over the air by Nazim on 20th April last that our calls would be UI8A/G3LZK and UI8A/G3SWH.

[The story continues in the next issue of the CDXC Newsletter].

50MHz in Poland

Steve Ayling, G4ASL

Hello all. I've just returned from another 'expedition' to Poland as SO5ASL. While I had a very nice time again over there I was never the less anxious to get back to the home QTH to begin chasing the XY0 operation (which thankfully was still in full swing) using my G callsign, and also to be ready for ZA to start up.

I had been hoping to use 6 metres from Poland and had written beforehand to the licensing authority requesting six metre operating privileges in addition to my usual HF activity, even suggesting some possible limitations and restrictions. This was, however, unsuccessful as also were my telephone enquiries

ONE IRC IS GOOD ENOUGH FOR RETURN POSTAGE

The following fax was received by DXNS from Five Nine Magazine in Japan *(tnx G4DYO):*

Since January 1, 1991, the International Return Coupon (IRC) is exchangeable in any country of the Universal Postal Union for one or more postage stamps representing the minimum postage for a priority item or an unregistered letter sent by air to a foreign country. Please see the new type of IRC. This means now one IRC is good enough for SASE by air mail! So, any DX stations or QSL managers who want more than two IRCs for one QSL by air mail should be against the DXCC rules of QSLing.

Any DXers will enclose more than two IRCs for one SASE,

1) multiple contacts 2)donations for next trips etc.

I hope this information will spread out to many DX communities.

73s. FIVE NINE MAGAZINE DX EDITOR, JA1ELY

Good news!! I hope this will help to put a stop to the folk who say that is costs 5 IRCs per card etc...

(cont'd from previous page)

after my arrival in SP.

From these conversations I understood that the licensing authority, Panstowa Agencja Radiowa (PAR) wish to plan carefully for the introduction and use of a 6 metre amateur allocation rather than grant special permission on an ad-hoc basis for individual applications; and that releasing an allocation to amateurs would begin to be discussed towards the end of the year. Also visiting amateurs would not be permitted to use the band in advance of it becoming available to the Polish resident operators.

I would anticipate that there would be an initial allocation within the next 12 months. It is difficult to predict as much is changing in Poland right now, particularly in the telecommunications services using radio that PAR may not be able to give the 6m question a very high priority.

Anyway I hope to be on the band during my visit next summer. If this is possible the first SP callsigns will already have been heard.

Some disappointment then, over 6m but I did operate for the first time on 30, 17, & 12m and made a total of 912 QSO's overall during a very intermittent operating schedule over 5 weeks. Particularly enjoyable were the contacts with Roger G3LQP, Bill G3MCS and Don G3NOF and all the other CDXC members and packet cluster users who called me.

73 everyone de Steve G4ASL/ SO5ASL

PULL OVER.....NE2Q, OFFICIAL HAM POLICE!

Jay Kolinsky, NE2Q

The following is taken from the NJDXA Newsletter and reproduced with the kind permission of NJDXA. *(Tnx G4DYO)*

There are many facets of ham radio. Slow scan and fast scan TV, Moonbounce, CW, SSB, RTTY, Amtor, packet, rag chewing, DXing, constructing equipment, antennas, circuit experimenting and more.

Over the past four or five years I've noticed a new aspect to the hobby: the "Policeman" or "Ham Cop". Many beginners in amateur radio have asked me who these people are and how they get their special privileges. At first I had to admit I didn't know, but after years of painstaking research I am happy to share my findings with the ham community at large.

WHY BECOME A "HAM COP"?

Here are just a few of the reasons real "Ham Cops" give.

1) My wife is the boss and I can't speak up to her.

2) At work I'm the lowest on the totem pole.

3) I'm a "macho man" (Note: there are no female Ham Cops.)

4) I can't work the DX the "big guns" can.

5) I have a monitor scope.

6) I have a frequency counter.

7) I want to sound authoritative.

8) Listeners will respect me.

THE HAM COP PATROL AREAS

There are specialists among Ham Cops. You must know the various areas of patrol in order to select one you'll be happy with.

SPLIT FREQUENCY PATROL: This ham cop adjusts his transmitter to the exact transmit frequency of any DX that is listening on another frequency. When an unlucky soul speaks on or near the DX frequency, the ham cop will say something like: "He's listening up!", "split" or "SPLEET", or "you're QRMing the DX." No special equipment is needed for this patrol; a simple transceiver and antenna are sufficient. But remember, you must stay on the DX frequency as long as he is on the air!

BAND EDGE PATROL: This ham cop has a frequency counter hooked to his receiver. He patrols the edge of the band. If he sees any of you signal outside the band, he will shout: "You're out of the band!" For greater effect he might add the word "dummy" to his comment. If you don't have a frequency counter you can still do this patrol. Modern receivers are fairly accurate. And it's the thought that counts anyway.

BANDWIDTH PATROL: You must have a spectrum analyser or a monitor scope hooked to your receiver. This ham cop continually tunes up and down the band looking

A PLEA FROM THE TREASURER

The idea of using Bankers Standing Orders, seemed good at the time and would have worked if members and the paying bank had co-operated. First, some members failed to read the instructions on the SO form and sent the Standing Orders direct to their banks (they should have been sent to me!), a further number of members failed to include their callsigns on the form as the paying reference. A number of the paying banks gave minimal details to the CDXC bank (Girobank) when making the transfers. In some cases the only information given to Girobank was the amount, the account number and the paying branch....NO NAME OR CALLSIGN!

I am in the unhappy position of having about twenty payments made by SO that I cannot credit to any member. Girobank can go back to the banks, but they make a charge of £4 per query and I am loath to commit some £80 of club funds in this way. Standing orders for the callsigns listed below are known to me, although not all the paying banks have actually transferred the funds as at today 12 September. (Callsigns are listed in the date order of notification):

G0GRK, G0MMI, G0MGM, G3SJX, G4CCZ, G3AEZ, G4DYO, G4BUE, BRS10663, G4DII, G3LZQ, GM3YOR, G3UML, G3NKS, G4UZN, G3NOB, G0KUB, G3WGV, G4SVB, G3VOF, G3WGN, G4NXG, G3RUR, GM4UZY, G3HCT, G3ZAY, G0CCH, G0HGW, G3PMR, G3ZBA, G3GAF and G4LJF.

IF YOU HAVE PAID BY SO AND YOUR CALL IS NOT ON THE LIST, PLEASE CONTACT ME URGENTLY GIVING THE DATE OF PAYMENT, BANK NAME AND ADDRESS, YOUR BANK ACCOUNT NUMBER AND YOUR NAME AND CALL. PLEASE ALSO CHECK YOUR BANK STATEMENT AND IF THE TRANSACTION HAS NOT BEEN MADE - G I V E Y O U R B A N K H E L L !! Sorry to ask this but it is ESSENTIAL AS OTHERWISE YOU WILL BE SHOWN AS A NON PAID-UP MEMBER AND IN DEFAULT! Those of you that paid by cheque should ignore this plea. Your subs have been credited.

Thanks and 73, Ron G6LX

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for SSB signals wider than 2.5kHz. When he finds an offending signal he first measures it, then zeroes in on the frequency and hollers: "Hey, you're 30kHz wide" or "Hey, you're splattering all over the band!". If you're ignored, keep repeating yourself until recognised by the offending station. It's getting easier to do this type of patrol; just buy one of those new transceivers with a built in scope.

DX RAGCHEWERS PATROL: Requires no special equipment other than a transceiver and an antenna.

SOCIAL EVENTS

BAR-BE-QUE

The annual CDXC Bar-be-que took place on August 17th at G0HSD. Although only five members and XYLs turned up it was a success. We basked in the sunshine and those who didn't get savaged by our dog had a great time. Many thanks to those who came and those who sent their apologies and a special thanks to Bren G4DYO and Ruth who provided the bar-be-que and lots of wine!

It is hoped that next years barbecue and indeed other social events will be supported by more members in the future. I do realise that the last Newsletter was a little late and some people missed out because of it, but a big effort was made via Packet, 144.525 and land-line to alert people of the event.

VS6CT VISIT

Many thanks to Bren G4DYO and his wife Ruth for the tremendous bash at their house for Phil VS6CT on 6th September. We all had a good time and it was great to meet up with Phil again and swap yarns with everyone. This was organised by Bren and Ruth at very short notice as Phil was running a tight schedule whilst in between KP2 and India.

CHRISTMAS MEAL

The CDXC Christmas meal has been arranged for Saturday 7th December at Ye Olde Swan, Thames Ditton, Surrey. Twenty places have been booked provisionally so please let me know AS SOON AS POSSIBLE if you intend to come. It goes without saying that XYLs are more than welcome.

Andrew Shaw, G0HSD

Simply tune the band until you find some rare DX station in a QSO. If the QSO is lasting more than five minutes, you must say (when the DX station is talking):"Hey, give someone else a chance!". Or, you can just cough into the microphone repeatedly.

BEEP PATROL: This is easy for beginners. All that is needed is a VHF handie talkie tuned to your favourite repeater that transmits a "beep" signal after each transmission. Simply lie in wait for someone to transmit before the "beep" signal. Now grab the opportunity to do your put-down: "Wait for the beep!".

A HAM COP IS ALWAYS UNDER COVER

It is extremely important that

you never identify yourself when transmitting. Total anonymity is the hall mark of the Ham Cop. Also, you must never be polite. You don't get any respect if you are. If you think you have a recognisable voice, try disguising it, or just whistle or belch on the offending operator. This is most effective and will teach him a lesson.

THE HAM COP MOTTO

Spend all your operating time looking for offenders. Be sure to let them know how poorly they are operating in the most impolite way! Be forceful!

THE HAM COP KIT

I have my very own official "Ham Cop" kit. It consist of a small electronic siren and a plastic mouth whistle. Woe to the poor offending station when I sound either one of these on the frequency. They will think they just took a laxative! I also have an official framed certificate and a real badge that says: "NE2Q, OFFICIAL HAM POLICEMAN." Listen to me on 14175Khz. You may hear me there practising my siren and whistle.

DXPEDITION DUPLICATES

Roger Western, G3SXW

Some expeditioners are making much of the problem of duplicates. Their threats of black-listing, slow QSLing and the like are causing some controversy. What a shame: DXing and DXpeditioning is fun. Wouldn't it be better if such unpleasantness could be avoided? Here are some thoughts on the situation, backed up with data from two expedition logs.

WHAT IS A "DUPE"?

The same call-sign working the same call-sign on the same band and the same mode. That surely is the definition. If an expedition is active on six bands and two modes then 12 contacts are possible without a dupe. Then comes the argument, offered by VP2ML for one, that only contacts needed for DXCC stickers should be made: making a QSO on both 20 and 15 metres is redundant and unfair to others trying to get through the pile-up. But the DXing world is not totally dominated by DXCC requirements. The pleasure, challenge, fulfilment of working that rare country on a different antenna is surely acceptable. Likewise, getting the new country in the log for an all-time new one but then also wanting a QRP QSO might be part of the game. Where's the problem? The problem derives from the view that an expedition is only active for a limited time and not every station can get through who wants to. Those making duplicate contacts prevent

others with smaller signals or in less favourable parts of the world from getting in the log. Is this really the case? Yes it happens, but every DXpedition lasting more than a week finishes up calling CQ. Those intentionally making dupes ARE being selfish but I happen to think that they are a tiny minority and it is not therefore nearly such a problem as we are being led to believe.

INSURANCE CONTACTS

You're not quite sure he's got your call right, you fear he's a pirate, you're plain desperate for your 300th country not to want to risk it. You call the next day to be sure. Intentionally issuing a dupe QSO is unfair so why not call on a different band? If everyone made insurance contacts the whole thing really would get bogged down. But the easiest way for the problem to be minimised is of course for the DX station to clearly confirm your call back to you. Being sure you're in his log is the main thing. But in the heat of battle sometimes there's QRM or QSB just when he does so. Then you're unsure.

THE DX END

The argument so far is that callers make the problem. In fact, operating tactics at the DX end can contribute significantly. Not sending their own call often enough tempts the impatient to call blind, thus leading to dupes. Not repeating back a corrected call leads to stations calling in again later. The XY expedition, which happens to be current, is heard to tell callers they have been black-listed and will receive QSLs very slowly, yet the operators are themselves generating excessive duplicate contacts by their own operating tactics. Indeed, the responsibility for making a DXpedition successful lies entirely with the DX operators, not the pile-up.

COMPUTERS

Chances are that this is not a new phenomenon at all. Perhaps it has recently become an issue because computerised logging means that dupes are identifiable, not only after the event but also at the time of the contact. Fine: we can now measure the size of this particular dynamic. Also, fine if it acts as a deterrent to the rare, really bad case of the station that makes multiple dupes. Maybe then what's needed is a DXpedition logging program that beeps when a SECOND dupe (third contact) occurs on the same band and same mode, thus allowing that the first dupe (second contact) was legitimate for some reason. We use K1EA on expeditions but its instant notification of a dupe doesn't help me much: I don't know whether it's a case of blatant "naughty" duping or whether that station didn't realise that he went into the log earlier.

THE RARE BAD CASE

Yes, there are stations, as can be seen from the data below, that call in several times on the same band and mode. The third and subsequent QSOs are not acceptable. But the data shows that they are

indeed rare cases. Should the whole thing be turned into such a major issue for the sake of trying to get through to such a tiny number of people that their behaviour is selfish to others in the pile-up? I think not. Let's put out the message not to be selfish by all means but then desist from making many others suffer from dictatorial policies which are inappropriate to the situation. The vast majority are playing the game right.

HOW MANY DUPES?

Logs have been analysed from expeditions to The Gambia in 1989 and to The Solomon Islands in 1991. C56/G3SXW made 8,400 QSOs and H44SX, H44VG, H44XF made 23,400. These were all CW contacts. In total the dupe rate was 6.6% for C56 and 4.5% at H44. Is that a lot of dupes? Contesters will know that 4-5% is not uncommon in CQ WW. No, it's not a lot. From H44 there were 1,057 dupes equivalent to about 10 of the 222 operating hours. Better, of course, if those ten hours were available for working other new stations. But a large proportion of those dupes were possibly "legitimate" anyway. We can't tell what proportion of dupes were for understandable reasons and which were "naughty". Certainly those which were second dupes (third QSOs), or more, can be counted as "selfish". Of those H44 dupes only 121 were in the clearly naughty category:

Nr. Dupes (same band /mode)	Nr. of Stations	Nr. of Dupe Contacts
1	936	936
2	48	96
3	7	21
4	1	4
All	992	1057

Only 56 stations of the 11,038 clearly broke the "rules". The 4-duper was a JA7, the 3-dupers were a GW, HL, I3, I5, LZ, OZ and an SM. The source of dupes by country is more a result of a few stations influencing the figures than an indication of national trends. But figures by geographic area from the two expeditions resulted in the following:

% DUPES BY AREA

Area	C56/G3SXW	3xH44's
USSR	9.7%	5.7%
E.Eu	6.7%	6.7%
N.Am	6.5%	2.4%
W.Eu	6.3%	5.0%
Asia	4.6%	3.4%
Rest	4.4%	3.7%
Total	6.6%	4.5%

It might seem that the Eastern Bloc has a tendency to issue more dupes than other areas. In UK, by the way, we are pretty good: 4.3% for C56 and 3.7% for H44.

CONCLUSION

The size of the problem is much smaller than some would have us believe. The rare cases of multiple dupes are to be discouraged: PLEASE don't do it. Please only

(cont'd on p.35)

CDXC Certificate of Merit

Here is the list of certificates of Merit that have been presented to date. We are always interested in suggestions for future possible recipients of what is the only UK award of this type. Recipients are those people who have contributed most to the DXing scene in the preceding 12 months, or have been instrumental in providing long-term support to the DXing fraternity over a number of years. The number presented is very small. The 'Certificate' nowadays takes the form of a magnificent looking wooden plaque, quite fitting of the prestige with which the owner of one is seen by the UK DXing fraternity.

Paul Evans, G4BKI. CDXC Awards Manager.

#	Recipient	Callsign	Reason	Year	
1)	Roger Brown	G3LQP			
2)	Geoff Watts		DX Newssheet		
3)	Al Fisher	K8CW			
4)	Dieter Konrad	OE2DYL			
5)	Wolf Klier	OE2VEL			
6)	Eduard Turkovic	OE1ETA			
7)	Jim Smith	VK9NS			
8)	Erik Sjolund	SM0AGD			
9)	Hans Hjelmstrom	SM6CVX			
10)	Balder Drobnica	DJ6SI			
11)	Carl & Martha Henson				
12)	Iris & Lloyd Colvin				
13)	Fr.Marshall Moran	9N1MM			
14)	VU7WCY	VU2GDG			
15)	BY1PK				
16)	HK0TU	HK3DDD			
17)	Tom Christian	VR6TC			
18)	Fr.David Reddy	CE0AE			
19)	Kermadec	ZL1AMO	Kermadec DXpedition		
20)	Cologne DX	DK9KX	St.Peter & Paul		
21)	Brendan McCartney	G4DYO	RSGB DX Newssheet		
22)	Einar Enderud	LA1EE	Peter I Is.		
23)	Kare Pederssen	LA2GV			
24)	Hubert Trzaska	5A0A		(87)	
25)	Paul Granger	F6EXV	Kingman, etc.	(88)	
26)	Martti Laine	OH2BH		(89)	
27)	HA5 DX	HA5PP		(90)	
28)	Ian Shepherd	G4LJF	1st UK PacketCluster		(90)
29)	Matts Persson	SM7PKK	Pacific travels	(90)	

(cont'd from p.33)

dupe an expedition if there are grounds for so doing. That way more people share in the fun. To DXpedition operators: PLEASE employ operating tactics that help minimise dupes. And please allow that many dupes are for valid reasons. Threats and penalties only debase our wonderful hobby. Remember: it's all for FUN!

(cont'd from p.20)

numbers were probably due to the presence of Phil and some were not (yet) club members. Well over twenty CDXC members live within easy reach of both G0HSD and G4DYO and on both occasions a number of them were connected to the PacketCluster throughout the afternoon and evening, so why didn't they make the effort to support the Club? FOC enjoys tremendous support for its social activities, which keep the members in close contact not only with each other, but with goings on in the Club and in the world of CW operating.It would be great if CDXC enjoyed the same support.Recently a member asked me what CDXC did for him.That was the wrong question-members should ask themselves "What can I do for CDXC?"

Please support the Club; hope to see you at the next social gathering.

Bren, G4DYO

(cont'd from p.17)

therefore that if we can get 5 single-ops (which appears to include Single-Op Assisted - ie connected to PacketCluster) who are not part of another Team, then there is no reason why we shouldn't enter a Team score. A list of Team members must be FAXed to CQ Magazine before the start of the contest, so if you are prepared to have your score included in a CDXC Team (which doesn't affect your standing as a single-op, of course) please let me know by about the 23rd October at the latest.

In addition to Team contesting, ALL CDXC members in whatever category can contribute to CDXC's score in the Club category. All you have to do is write "Chiltern DX Club" in the Club box on the cover sheet before you send it off. If you are part of a multi-op effort you can claim a proportion, eg if you are one of a 3-man multi-op team, you can claim a third of the total score for CDXC. I will try to have copies of CQWW cover sheets at Daventry ready printed with CDXC's name in the Club box.

And don't forget, the leading UK single-op in both legs gets a CDXC plaque.

All in all, plenty of reasons to have a go this year, even if you don't expect to be the biggest noise on the bands. I can supply a photocopy of the rules, plus sample log and cover sheet, in return for an sae.

73 Don, G3XTT

DXNS CALENDAR (Tnx G4DYO)

Now	3B8CF/3B7
Now	S21NQ
Now	ZA1A
Now	ZL8GBS
Til Oct	7P8CL by SM5KDM
Til Oct	JX3EX
Til Oct	FK/F1HQY
Til Oct 1	AS-059 EK0I
Til Oct 15	EO50PQ
Til Oct 31	A25/26 prefixes
Til Dec 31	5V by F2JD
Til Dec 31	HL30 prefix
Til Dec 31	RJ calls
Til Dec 31	HE pfx by HB9's
Til Dec 31	VP8CDJ S Geo.
Til Dec 31	CT0A
Til Jan	7S8AAA Antarc
Til Jan 31	4K1ADQ S Shetlands
Sep 28-Oct 16	9H3NT
Sep 30-Oct 7	VP2M by W & G
Sep/Oct	AS-082
Oct	AS-083
Oct	FR5ZU/T
Oct	XQ0X San Felix
Oct	UH & UI by UA4s
Oct 1-15	D2ACA
Oct 2-9	LX by PA's
Oct 5-6	VK/ZL/OC SSB Contest
Oct 5-6	IBER-AM SSB Contest
Oct 6	ON 80m SSB Contest
Oct 6	YL Activity Day
Oct 5-13	R3DSR
Oct 9-16	XU0JA by JA1NUT
Oct 9-Dec 16	Pacific G4ZVJ
Oct 12-13	VK/ZL/OC CW Contest
Oct 12-14	GD3CSA/P
Oct 12-19	WB2YQH/VP9
Oct 13	RSGB 10/15m SSB Ctst
Oct 15-21	GJ by DLs
Oct 15-Nov 28	FR5AI/J
Oct 18-Dec 5	VS6/GU4XGG
Oct 20	RSGB 15m CW Contest
Oct 20-Nov 10	XF4I Rev.Gigedo
Oct 21-31	ZK1XC S Cook
Oct 22-31	GU by DLs
Oct 26-27	CQWW SSB Contest
Oct/Nov	CE0 San Felix
Nov	FR5ZU/J0
Nov 1-7	OC-142 VK4CHB
Nov 6	YL Activity Day
Nov 8-11	SEANET Convention
Nov 9-10	OK DX CW/SSB Contest
Nov 9-10	WAE RTTY Contest
Nov 10-14	SA-021 AZ1DSR
Nov 16-17	OE 160m CW Contest
Nov 16-17	RSGB 2nd 160m CW Ctst
Nov 16-17	Oceania QRP CW Ctst
mid-Nov-Dec	AF by G4ODV
Nov 23-24	CQWW CW Contest
Nov 27-dec 27	FD1EOZ S Shetlands?
Nov/Dec	3W by US group

CDXC Sportshirt

Due to popular demand, Martin will be putting in another order for CDXC Sportshirts (short sleeve, buttons on neck, with discreet CDXC logo on left chest.) If you would like one, please send £10.00 inc postage, with the completed order form to Martin J. Atherton G3ZAY, 41 Enniskillen Road, Cambridge, CB4 1SQ. Cheques should be made payable to M.J. Atherton.

Name.....

QTH.....Size.....

NB. S.34", M.36-38", L.38-40" XL >40"

Colour 1st choice..... 2nd choice.....NB.Logo will be dark blue. Shirt colours available include: White, sky blue, red, yellow and jade green.